

THE CHEYENNE TRANSPORTER.

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Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency, DARLINGTON, IND. TERR.

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The supreme court of the District of Columbia has just rendered the decision that the Cherokee Indians are a foreign nation, consequently an offense against them is not a violation of the laws of the United States.

At New Kiowa an effort is being made to have a mail line established from that place to Fort Supply, thence to Mobeetie, in the Panhandle. Kiowa being much nearer to those points than Dodge, the plan is very feasible, and it should be put into execution. The military at Supply and citizens in the Panhandle favor it.

We have received on exchange the "Pioneer," a new paper lately born at Tascosa, west of here in the Panhandle country. It is a large, neatly printed paper, a type of frontier enterprise, and gives promise of a prosperous life. In its last issue we notice an advertisement of Thos. Lemons and Thos. Dove, two former Washita boys, who have gone into business in that plains country.

H. M. Maidt, the Silver city mail man, who comes from Arkansas city, informs us that the Santa Fe extension south from that point is being pushed right through the Territory, and that by the first of next January it will have been completed to a point forty miles east of here. The surveyors running the preliminary line were here last week after supplies and worked on south. We are told that the preliminary runs only 25 miles east of here, yet we have no good authority for this. As near as we can learn, however, the road will most likely be built on the line between the Iowa Indian reserve and the Oklahoma country south to Gainesville, the Santa Fe thus connecting its recently purchased system of roads in Texas with those in Kansas.

O. J. Woodard, Esq., who was Chief clerk at this Agency during Agent Miles' administration, and who has held the position of clerk at Haskell Institute for the past two years, left the Indian service with the beginning of July. In a letter to the TRANSPORTER under date of the 30th ult., Mr. Woodard says: "I give up my position this evening to an Ohio gentleman, who has been appointed in my stead by the Indian office. So to-day closes a ten years' continuous service as clerk in the Indian Department." He further states that on July 18 he will leave Lawrence for Las Vegas, N. M., to enter a new field—just what, he did not say. He closes his letter by wishing to be kindly remembered to all his old time friends in the Territory. Mr. Woodard has many warm friends here, and the wish is general that good-fortune and happiness be his lot forever.

A Reformation.

Up to this year it has been from time immemorial, the custom of the Indians to have an organized band of brave bucks called "dog-soldiers." It was the duty of the "dog-soldiers" just before the time of holding the spring medicine dance to arm themselves and go about through the different encampments ordering all Indians to move to a certain point to take part in the dance. If any Indian refused to attend, his tent would be torn down, his chickens and dogs killed and other property destroyed, and in most instances compulsory attendance at medicine enforced. The past year has witnessed a reformation in the character of the tribal customs of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, the dog-soldier element having been broken up by their Agent, Capt. F. M. Lee. This is very noticeable from the fact that the late Cheyenne medicine was the first one ever given that the dog-soldiers were not around before hand tearing up houses and shooting stock and compelling every Indian to move to the medicine camp. They had a wonderful influence over the tribe, and now that Capt. Lee has been the means of breaking up the element, we call it an extraordinary reformation.

A Waste of Time.

The Eagle says the Oklahoma question is being strongly agitated again at Wichita, and that a boomlet of large proportions is going to be stirred up soon in the matter; that the boomers are quietly but strongly organizing preparatory to entering the Territory in defiance of the law, military, etc. A wise correspondent at Kingman answers the Eagle's article on the subject in the following correct language:

"We see in yours of today the contemplated raid by boomers to the Oklahoma. Now, I will write you of Major Sumner, commander of Ft. Reno, and also in charge of Oklahoma. Major Sumner is a son of old Colonel Sumner, of war fame, and is considered a 'holy terror.' In that lower country he is feared by all alike, Indians and whites, soldiers and citizens, and he means to keep cattlemen and boomers out and he knows just how to do it. His plan for keeping them out is very practical.

If the people want to invade Oklahoma they had better leave their families of women and children at home, as they will surely meet with hardships."

The writer evidently has had some experience in the business, and, knowing whereof he speaks, his advice to the boomers is very good. It is a waste of time on the part of the boomers to attempt to force settlement upon the Oklahoma lands. There has been a standing order issued by the Department for the military to keep that country cleared of cattlemen and settlers, and, to be sure, Col. Sumner is not asleep. Fort Reno now has a standing garrison of seven companies, and the sacred lands are being constantly scoured in search of intruders.

The Chiloecco School.

The Arkansas City Traveler of the 7th gives a complete programme of the closing exercises of the above Indian school, and then adds:

"The entertainment given at the Chiloecco Indian School last Wednesday was well attended, and the performance of the young folks was really creditable. The school exercises lasted one and one-half hours, being musical, oratorical, dramatic and spectacular. The programme was well selected, and the juvenile performers entered warmly into the spirit of the thing. The trouble encountered in the endeavor to civilize the red man, and infuse his mind with the progress of the age, is the phlegmatism that marks the race; an indifference that cannot be thawed into sympathy, and which speaks him

Remote, unfriended, melancholy, slow, in the midst of the stirring events that absorb our entire population. But it has been shown, and this school entertainment affords another instance of the fact, that when the Indian is caught young and subjected to the influences that mould character and bring out the man, he also can develop feeling, and be brought to take an interest in the endless variety of affairs that compose our daily life."

And you are wrongly impressed, Bro. Traveler, if you labor under the idea that the average adult Indian, when proper influences are brought to bear upon him, is not capable of joining the youth in their march forward.

The following special, under date of the 5th, appears in the Wichita Daily Eagle of the 6th:

The Cheyenne Indians commenced their annual "medicine dance" on Sunday. The entire tribe is concentrated at a point four miles east of the agency, and while the white people are to-day celebrating the glorious Fourth at Fort Reno, our natives too, are observing the national day by practicing their old superstitious custom. They usually hold their spring medicine dance earlier than this date, but this year they were induced by their agent Captain Lee, to defer it until they had completed cultivating their crops. The dance is held in a large lodge of a circular form, made of poles, and capable of holding several hundred people. The sides are made of duck, and the top is partly covered with boughs of trees. The dance will last probably four days, and it is wonderful to see what torture the dancers endure. An image is suspended from the center ridge pole of the lodge, on which each dancer fixes his eyes, and blows continuously on a bone whistle, at the same time keeping up unrelenting motion with his body, continuing for the four days without sleep, food or drink. The dance is being witnessed by intensely interested spectators, many Indians from different tribes being here to see the barbarism.

FRANK L. FRED,

INDIAN TRAD'R

Dealer in General Merchandise,

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I keep constantly on hand a complete stock of everything needed on the ranch or trail, which I am selling as cheap as the cheapest. My house is headquarters for every article, and if it is not in stock I will cheerfully order it. Give me a call and get satisfaction.

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DARLINGTON, I. T.

Solicit the patronage of Stockmen and the traveling public.

Single and Double Rigs Furnished at Short Notice!

Forage for sale in quantities to suit. Charges low and satisfaction guaranteed.

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SAM'L WOODSON, Jr., Proprietor.

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KAS.

HEADQUARTERS FOR

COMMERCIAL AND CATTLEMEN!

LOCATED IN THE CENTER OF THE TOWN.

This Hotel is First-class in every respect; good barber shop, bath rooms and billiard parlor in connection with the house.

Territory people will find it to their advantage to stop at the LELAND HOTEL when at Caldwell.

F. C. CROMWELL.

H. A. TODD.

CROMWELL & TODD,

DEALERS IN—

FLOUR, FEED AND GRAIN,

MACHINERY, AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, WAGONS,

BUGGIES, ETC.

We also carry a full line of Garden, Farm and Grass Seed.

STORE, SOUTH MAIN STREET, NEXT TO NEW OPERA HOUSE, Caldwell, Ksa.

A. J. LUDER,

BOOT & SHOE - MAKER.

We have just added to our stock of Custom Work, a full stock of

READY-MADE BOOTS!

WHICH HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR THE CATTLE TRADE.

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